

# ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

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## THE CHURCHES

### WIDOWHOOD OF THE SOUL.

Rev. Alexander Maclean, the pastor, delivered an earnest discourse yesterday at the First Methodist church, his theme being "The Widowhood of the Soul." He used the first clause of the fourteenth verse of the fourteenth chapter of Proverbs as the text: "The backslider at heart shall be filled with his own ways."

The Almighty God on the throne of this universe is the soul's helper. God is married to your soul. He is in the relation of bridegroom and your soul is the bride. He would make any sacrifice for your sake. When the bride is faithful to the husband, all is well—there is joy and comfort and delight. So in the spiritual marriage. But when the bride is faithless, God begins to withdraw himself from the partnership, and goes out, leaving the soul widowed and desolate. You remember the hymn beginning, "By the stream we sat and wept," and well may the soul weep when this spiritual bereavement comes to it.

I am reminded this morning of a magnificent ranch in the east, with which I was once familiar. Underlying it was a solid three-foot vein of coal, extending over the whole three hundred and twenty acres. There were well cultivated fields, green pastures, thrifty orange hedges, horses of fine breeding, cattle that it would rejoice the heart of the stock grower to see, a splendid farm house, glistening in its coat of snowy white, a monster barn full of hay, great cribs of corn, almost bursting with their contents, a large water supply tank, a rambled fence, so built that foxes could not raid the garden, and orchards bearing the choicest fruits. After awhile the owner, Mr. Potter died. When I saw that grand place under other conditions, its appearance was wonderfully changed. Everything was dilapidated and decaying, the paint off the buildings, the fences down, and everything dirty and dingy.

The former condition of that farm corresponds to that of the soul that is married to the Lord. There is growth and beauty, delight and peace. But when the bride is unfaithful, when the soul gives God occasion to withdraw from the partnership, the divorce means spiritual desolation, bereavement and death.

Yesterday I was told a horrible story of domestic unfaithfulness and infidelity in this city. I wonder how God feels over our unfaithfulness toward Him? Is it any wonder that He turns His back upon the place where he has had so much pleasure? Then, indeed, your soul becomes a widow. Some of you may know the loneliness of widowhood and what it means.

The text deals with the backslider in heart. There may be such here this morning—those who were truly converted, those who had the witness of the Spirit that they were born of God. Perhaps they are saying: "I would give everything I possess to have again the joy that I have lost." I have been associated with some backsliders who were wondrous kind. I have seen others who were critical and censorious.

Where is the backslider in heart to be found? Usually in the church of the living God—teaching a Sunday school, class, collecting money for church revenues. You will be his neighbor in the service of the church. He is more or less unfaithful with his own spiritual condition. He may remain a long time in the church and not know that he is spiritually widowed. I wonder if there is any one here who knows himself to be a backslider in heart—one who not openly transgresses, but carefully conceals his sin? Never mind what others have done or said. Have you lost the witness of the Spirit that you are a son of God?

You don't like such preaching? I cannot help it. It is the kind you need, and the kind the Lord wants you to have. If God has taken his departure from you, I assure you that your spiritual ranch is in a bad condition—the fences down. Do you have family worship? Did you ever have it? Will you resume it? You had better mend the broken fences. You had better rebuild the family altar.

I do not so address the people who were never converted. And the best friends I have here—I hope if they are backsliders the arrows of God will pierce their hearts. The way of the backslider in heart is a way of neglect, a struggle through tangled labyrinth of broken privileges. It is a way of sin. It is a way of death. The physical death is a bagatelle compared to the spiritual death. Many are

dying thus. "These shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal."

### INACTIVITY IN GOD'S SERVICE.

At the Presbyterian church yesterday morning Rev. Henry Martin Campbell preached on the subject, "Inactivity in the Service of God," using the text Gal. 6:9: "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

One cause of inactivity in God's service is that Christians look too much at the discouraging condition of the things of the kingdom. If we look for discouragements we find them. A king sent out two men to go through his kingdom, the first to gather for him every kind of flower to be found, the second to gather all kinds of weeds. The first returned laden with many, many flowers, but in all his travels had seen no weeds. The second man brought to the king weeds of every kind and had seen no flowers in his journey. We find in this world what we look for. There are discouragements, but these should stimulate the Christian to greater activity for God.

A second reason for our inactivity is that we over-estimate the discouragements. We see "Right forever on the scaffold. Wrong forever on the throne" and forget how "that scaffold sways the future" and God still watches over his own. Elijah under the juniper tree sees himself only left in God's service in Israel; but God's vision is broader and he sees the seven thousand who have not bowed to Baal. We need God's vision of things.

A third cause for inactivity in God's service is secular dissipation. There is religious dissipation. That God never demands for anyone. The cares of business and the things of the world keep us from the service of God. This, likewise, is never demanded of us by God. Let not secular dissipation come between us and the grandest work on this side of heaven—the salvation of immortal souls.

The cure for inactivity in the service of God is to get into our lives a realization of the indestructible character of the influence we exert on men in the service of God. Seed faithfully sown in God's field never fails to produce its thirty, sixty or hundred fold. As in the physical, so in the moral and spiritual realm, no influence is ever lost. Service for Christ is for eternity. "My word shall not return unto me void," says God. Our Master in his own good time will answer our petitions. We are entering on a season of sowing. Let us sow the seed and God's blessing will surely follow.

### SATAN A LIAR.

At the Christian church yesterday morning L. Williams, minister, used for his theme "Some of Satan's Lies," Gen. 3:4, 5:4. Mr. Williams in part said:

Jesus taught the existence of a personal devil who is the enemy of God and man. In Gen. 3:4 Jesus says the devil is a murderer and a liar and the father of lies. It is better to believe Jesus than to listen to the teaching of men who deny the existence of the devil. If it is the purpose of Satan to deceive men, he would keep his own identity a secret and influence men unwares. He is satisfied with the man who denies his existence. This is one of the first lies he would have men believe in order to throw them off their guard. Satan seeks to persuade men to deny God. He rejoices when a man expresses doubt as to God's existence and interest in the welfare of man. Satan would have men doubt the immortality of his own soul and the existence of man in a future home. If he can bring a man into a state of indifference in regard to the future he has accomplished his purpose. Another lie which Satan seeks to have men believe is that he is a friend of man. In such a guise he came to Eve, Hath God said thou shalt die? Thou shalt not surely die, but live and become as God's knowing good and evil. By his words, making God a liar and claiming that God would come by disobeying God, Satan succeeded in persuading the first human beings to sin. Satan knows the weakest spot in every life and here he makes his attack. To one whose weakness is pride and a desire to be independent, he concentrates power on this point. He says, man is free; God has no right to rule over him. To another he makes his appeal to curiosity, seek to know and find out all things. There is much pleasure in new sensations and experiences. Here he introduces the lie that there is no such thing as sin. Everything you can do that will bring pleasure is all right. Don't be afraid of any experiment; no act can harm you. How many are lured on in a sinful course through curiosity. Better be ignorant of many things. All evil experiences should be avoided. Another lie of the devil is that sin won't hurt you. No consequences to follow any evil effects. No pollution and degradation of soul here or punishment hereafter. While this lie is contradicted by every man's experience many are still deceived. Satan admits to many the fact that they are sinners but tells them they can not help it; can't change or repent; victim of heredity and environment; not to blame for this condition; yet men know that they are free. To others Satan says, time enough yet. Have a good time. Don't think of the future. Satan is the enemy of man and the fact that men are becoming polluted by sin proves his existence. His influence is seen in all the efforts men put forth to degrade the fellows. All our misery and woe the result of man's disobedience. Hear the call of Christ. He is our friend and will never deceive. Be not deceived. God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

### "OLD YEAR MEDITATIONS."

The pastor of Central Methodist church spoke to a large audience at the eleven o'clock hour on the subject of "Old Year Meditations." He said in part:

We are on the threshold of a new year. Just what it holds for us no one can tell. I for one am not afraid of it. My experience has taught me to look for kindness and goodness in all paths that I shall be called to follow.

This first Sunday morning of the new year 1908, I greet you one and all, with glad hopes and with bright and inspiring expectations. Not that 1907 brought me all I hoped and prayed for. I have not realized many of my fondest desires. But one thing: the old

year brought me so much that was good that I have no inclination whatever to complain. Some things have come to me that were the harvest of my own sowing, of those I repent and resolve on a wiser course.

Every successful business man likes to post his books by January first. He wants to know his assets and his liabilities, the profit and loss of the twelve months gone. He wishes to collect everything due him and to pay everything he owes. The merchant who postpones the squaring up time from year to year will be a bankrupt. The very same thing is true religiously.

We have three creditors—ourselves, our neighbors and our God. Well then how does my account stand with myself?

Have I (1) developed in rational wisdom? (2) profitably employed my talents? (3) industriously used my opportunities? (4) bravely overcome temptations? Had I died when the old year died would I be living now with the Lord?

And how does my account stand with my neighbor? Have I treated him as a brother, and loved him as I love myself? Have I been patient with his shortcomings? Have I set him a good example? Have I pointed him to Christ and tried my best to save his soul?

How does my account stand with God? Answer my brother, with all the seriousness that gathers about an approaching eternity.

### TUBERCULOSIS HOME FOR UNION PRINTERS

The Movement For Securing It Has Been Renewed With Promise of Success.

The local International Typographical Union has renewed its efforts to secure a home in Arizona for members of the union all over the country who are afflicted with tuberculosis. A movement in this direction was begun a year ago and the matter was brought up at the Hot Springs, Ark., meeting of the International Union last summer. The minds of the delegates, however, had not been prepared for it so that nothing could be done but plant the seed. Since then the local union has had communications from different parts of the country favoring the enterprise.

At a meeting yesterday a committee was appointed to put itself into communication with the other five locals in the territory to urge them to send delegates to the Boston meeting next August and put the matter of the home to the front and keep it there.

Such a home as is proposed would cost considerable money at the outset. The union is easily strong enough to meet it though, but it is certain that once the matter was under way help would be received from outside sources as in the case of the magnificent Colorado Springs home.

That has since been supported by the union in such a way that the members have hardly felt it. The cost

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## Suits and Overcoats

\$35.00 REDUCED TO	\$25.00
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30 and 32 West Washington Street

### Personal Mention

Harry A. Reese of Douglas was among the arrivals in Phoenix yesterday.

C. P. Brown and wife and O. P. Brown of Danville, Ills., were arrivals here yesterday.

Judge Hawkins of Prescott was a visitor in Phoenix yesterday. J. H. Rehn and wife of Scranton Pa. were among the tourists arriving in Phoenix yesterday.

Dr. Willard Smith of La Grande.

Oregon was an arrival here yesterday. Among the guests at the Hotel Adams yesterday were: O. H. Horton and daughter, Chicago; W. E. Drake, Albuquerque; Jack Ullman, Cincinnati.

You can't get by the big oil painting, "The Lovers," on exhibition at the Anheuser saloon, painted by P. P. Howard.

Grim Cactus plants growing. All the desert o'er. Make the cactus candy. Sold at Donofrio's store.

## The California Wine & Liquor Company

RECEIVED CARLOAD OF WINE FOR CHRISTMAS WEEK.

TIPO CHIANTI: Malaga, Sherry, Madeira, Angelica, Port, Catauba, Sauter, Riesling, Burgundy, Carbenet, Lacremidi, Cristo.

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## Dorris Opera House

Frank Connelley, Manager.

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The Musical Event of the Season.

Cheridah Simpson

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MUSIC—REGINALD DeKOVEN.

BOOK—CHARLES KLEIN.

LYRICS—CHAS. EMERSON COOK.

Augmented Orchestra

Direction Jos. M. Gaite.

Prices \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c. Sale starts Jan. 5th. Send mail orders now

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# MID-WINTER CLEARANCE SALE

BELOW IS A PARTIAL LIST OF THE MANY BARGAINS OFFERED. A SAVING OF 25 PER CENT OR MORE CAN BE REALIZED DURING THIS SALE:

<b>OUTING FLANNEL.</b> 12½c grade of Outings in light and dark colors, extra heavy quality. Clearance sale price, yard..... <b>9c</b>	<b>HAND BAGS.</b> A chance to save on leather goods. Bags from \$1.00 to \$10. Special..... <b>1-4 OFF</b>	<b>CORSETS.</b> Broken lines of American Beauty, sizes incomplete in some lines but your size will be found in some of them. Values \$1.00 to \$1.50. Clearance price..... <b>75c</b>
<b>KIMONO OUTINGS.</b> 15c qualities in Oriental patterns—designs suitable for Sacques, Kimonos. Clearance price, yd <b>11 1-2c</b>	<b>EMBROIDERIES.</b> Many beautiful patterns of embroideries in values up to 25c. Clearance price, yard..... <b>10c</b>	<b>PILLOW CASES.</b> Regular size cases in extra grade of Muslin, torn and hemmed; regular price 35c a pair. Special each..... <b>12 1-2c</b> 25c grades..... <b>5 for \$1.00</b>
<b>CALICOES.</b> Staple brands of Calicoes in red, indigos, grays and blacks, 8 1-2c qualities—10,000 to choose from. Clearance price, yard..... <b>7c</b>	<b>UNDERWEAR.</b> All grades of Ladies' Winter Underwear in Union Suits and separate garments. Special discount..... <b>20 PER CENT</b>	<b>COTTON BLANKETS.</b> Values reduced as follows: 75c grades, per pair..... <b>55c</b> 1.00 grades, per pair..... <b>75c</b> 1.25 grades, per pair..... <b>95c</b> 1.50 grades, per pair..... <b>\$1.35</b>
<b>DRESS GINGHAMS.</b> 15c qualities of new Dress Gingham, fresh patterns and made for service. Clearance sale price, per yard..... <b>9 1-2c</b>	<b>HOSIERY.</b> A special offer of 35c Ladies' Hose in extra quality Hosiery thread. Special 4 pair <b>\$1.00</b>	<b>SHEETS.</b> Values of full sized Sheets reduced: 85c quality..... <b>75c</b> 1.00 quality..... <b>85c</b> 1.25 quality..... <b>98c</b>
<b>L. L. UNBLEACHED.</b> 16c grade of L. L. Muslin, extra heavy quality, a chance to save by spending. Clearance price, yd <b>8c</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S HOSE.</b> A bargain in Misses' and Children's Hose in 15c values. Special, pair..... <b>10c</b>	<b>WOOLEN BLANKETS.</b> Extra grade of Woollen Blankets, regular \$3.50 to \$5.50. Special discount of..... <b>20 PER CENT</b>
<b>FLANNELETTES.</b> 12½c and 15c grades of Flannelettes for wrappers and kimonos. Clearance price, yard..... <b>10c</b>	<b>MUSLIN UNDERWEAR.</b> Corset Covers, Drawers, Chinese Night Gowns and Skirts, all grades for this sale reduced to..... <b>1-4 OFF</b>	<b>FINE COMFORTS.</b> Extra size Comforts 6x7 feet, values \$3.50 to the down-filled grades at \$12.50. Discount of <b>20 PER CENT.</b>

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